

# Faith Based and Community Initiatives



USDA  
2005

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

## Apostolic Church of Promise Day Care

The Child and Adult Food Care Program

### A Story of Success.

Heather and her husband Joe are a young couple and the proud parents of a 2-year old daughter, Aubrey Kelley. Heather is currently in college and plans to graduate in May 2005. Joe is very busy working to support their young family and is planning on starting college in August 2005.

In May 2004, Aubrey started attending the Apostolic Church of Promise Day Care and participating in the FNS Child and Adult Care Food Program. Heather advised that, "Aubrey has never been a picky eater, but since she was born full term only weighing 5 pounds 14 ounces, we and her doctor have always been a little concerned about her weight." These concerns have diminished over the past several months with Aubrey in day care. "With the structure of nutritious and fun meals, Aubrey has been able to put on about 4-5 pounds, which is no easy task for our busy little girl. At home, with me in school and Joe working, our schedules sometimes lack the structure to offer regular meal times, and Aubrey often gets too busy playing to want to stop and eat a good meal. But with the meals at the day care, I feel very good about the sound nutrition she gets and the good eating habits she is developing. Aubrey use to never want to eat breakfast, but this has now changed. The combination of having other kids, the structure of a regular schedule, and good nutrition has been the key. They also make it fun! The hash-browns, shaped like dinosaurs, are a favorite of Aubrey's."

Heather is very grateful for the help that the government offers young families. "When Aubrey was an infant, WIC was a big help to us. Now that she is in day care, the reimbursable meals help the day care keep our costs more reasonable."

## **How the Initiative is Helping.**

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service's (FNS) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) was a welcomed blessing for Sister Mobley and the Apostolic Church of Promise Day Care. She first learned about the program through a site visit from county inspection staff as they reinforced outreach efforts from the state agency – Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. These efforts are an extension of the ongoing campaign coordinated by the Mountain Plains Region to reach potential new partners by helping faith-based and community organizations become aware of opportunities to participate with FNS nutrition assistance programs. Bulk mailings, email messages, site visits, regular conference calls and meetings with state and local staff are all a part of the efforts to support and bring attention to the Faith-Based and Community Initiative.

**“We provide the children breakfast, lunch and three snacks a day, between the hours of 6:00 am and 6:00 pm. The reimbursements for these are a great blessing.”**

Sister Mobley advised that, “the Day Care was not created to make money. We exist because God put us here. However, when you have a day care, there are expenses that no one ever thinks about. CACFP helped take some financial pressure off of me in running the Day Care so that I can now help in the classroom and be more involved with the kids. This is what I love to do. We provide the children breakfast, lunch and three snacks a day, between the hours of 6:00 am and 6:00 pm. The reimbursements for these are a great blessing.”

## **The Organization.**

The Apostolic Day Care started as a vision of Sister Mobley's about three years prior to its opening. As a cook at a nearby school, she would pass by the current location of Apostolic Church of Promise

then being used by another church) and think to herself that, “this would be a wonderful location for our Church and a new day care.” Sister Mobley has a great love for children, and had longed to open up a day care after raising her own children. However, at the current location of her Church, a day care would not have been practical due to the facilities not being large enough.

**In July 2000, Sister Mobley’s vision started to become a reality.**

Her Church had just been notified that they would no longer be able to rent the building where they were currently meeting. While wondering what to do, Pastor Coble decided that he would stop by the location that he and Sister Mobley had discussed on a number of prior occasions. As he pulled up to the building, the current owner also drove up. The two of them met, and the facility was soon purchased by the Apostolic Church of Promise.

Having no equipment and a small budget of \$250 to begin a new day care, Sister Mobley acted on faith and set a date in August to open the Church Day Care (just a month after getting the new location). While attempting to locate supplies at various garage/yard sales, she passed by one and saw that there really was not anything for sale that they could use. However, she could not ignore the strong prompting to go back.



**The Kelley Family.**

Once there, seeing nothing to buy for the day care, out of embarrassment, she decided to purchase an item of clothing because she had driven by and then come back. As she made the purchase and began to walk to her car, she overheard the person holding the sell

mention that she and her sister had been preparing to open a day care and had all the supplies, but now had changed their plans.

Sister Mobley said that “I gave thanks to the Lord” and then asked if they were willing to sell some of their supplies. The person’s sister showed her the supplies; five full truckloads valued at a least \$1000, and then told Sister Mobley that she would be willing to sell them all for \$250 (the exact amount of funds that the Church had authorized her to spend). Sister Mobley again said that “I gave thanks to the Lord and was so touched by how He answered our prayers.”

### **Stats.**

Year Founded: *2000*

Started USDA-FNS Program: *October, 2003*

Annual Budget: *\$70,000*

Number of Clients: *35*

Number of Staff: *1 Full-time, 6 Part-time, and volunteers are used periodically.*

Outputs in the past year: *A monthly average of \$750.00 in reimbursable breakfasts, lunches and snacks.*

### **Mission.**

While the Day Care does not have an official mission statement, Sister Mobley advised that their motto is “Love and Structure.” “While the kids are here, we want to give them a lot of attention and love. We want their experience to be something that they will remember all their lives as being positive.”